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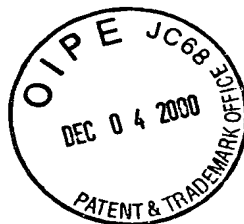
In re Patent Application of

FIRE et al.

Appln. No. 09/215,257

Filed: December 18, 1998

FOR: GENETIC INHIBITION BY DOUBLE-STRANDED RNA



Group Art Unit: 1633

Examiner: D. Nikodem

* * * *

Monday, December 4, 2000

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR § 1.111

Hon. Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed June 2, 2000 (Paper No. 12), entry and consideration of the following amendments and remarks are respectfully requested.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Kindly amend the claims as follows.

A:
SUB B1

1. (Amended) A method to inhibit expression of a target gene in a cell comprising introduction of a ribonucleic acid (RNA) into the cell in an amount sufficient to inhibit expression of the target gene, wherein the RNA comprises a double-stranded structure with an identical nucleotide sequence as compared to a portion of the target gene of at least 25 bases in length.

Claim 12, line 2, replace "loss-of" with --loss of--.

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